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IN 3109128
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Intelligence Information Cable

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[redacted] 3.5(c)

DIRECTORATE OF OPERATIONS

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT. NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

REPORT CLASS S E C R E T-NNINTEL- [redacted] 3.5(c)

DIST 19 SEP 79

COUNTRY: ARGENTINA

SUBJECT: REACTION OF ARGENTINE MILITARY OFFICERS TO PERONIST PARTY DENUNCIATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS BY ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT [redacted] 3.3(b)(1)

[redacted] 3.3(b)(1)

[redacted] 3.3(b)(1)

1. [redacted] FBLLOWING THE DEPARTURE OF THE 3.3(b)(1)

INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (IAHRC), THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT WOULD CRACKDOWN ON POLITICAL LEADERS WHO TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE VISIT TO SPEAK AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT. THE PERONISTS WOULD BE THE PRINCIPAL TARGET. MILITARY OFFICERS WERE ANGERED BY THE PERONIST DENUNCIATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS BY THE GOVERNMENT WHICH WAS GIVEN TO THE IAHRC AND PUBLISHED IN THE LOCAL PRESS ON 12 SEPTEMBER 1979. MILITARY OFFICERS WERE APPALLED THAT THE PERONISTS PLACED HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS BY GOVERNMENT FORCES ON THE SAME LEVEL AS TERRORIST ACTIONS. [redacted] 3.3(b)(1)

[redacted] MANY OFFICERS WANTED DEOLINDO 3.3(b)(1)

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B I T T E L, VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE JUSTICIALIST (PERONIST PARTY) WHO GAVE THE DECLARATION TO THE IAHRC, ARRESTED IMMEDIATELY FOR VIOLATION OF THE SECURITY LAWS. THE PRESENCE OF THE IAHRC WAS A DETERRENT AND HE PROBABLY WILL NOT BE ARRESTED AS LONG AS THE IAHRC REMAINS IN ARGENTINA. ([redacted] COMMENT: ON 14 SEPTEMBER THE ARGENTINE NEWS AGENCY TELAM, REPORTED THAT A FEDERAL JUDGE HAD ORDERED THAT AN INVESTIGATION BE CONDUCTED TO ESTABLISH WHETHER BITTEL'S REMARKS TO THE IAHRC VIOLATED THE LAW ON FEDERAL SECURITY OR OTHER LAWS REGARDING TERRORIST OR SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES. [redacted] THERE ARE SOME IN THE ARMED FORCES WHO REASON THAT THE "ELIMINATION" OF ANOTHER 100 OR SO INDIVIDUALS WOULD NOT MAKE MUCH DIFFERENCE TO THE ALREADY EXISITING LIST OF 3,000.) 3.3(b)(1) 3.3(b)(1)

2. ([redacted] COMMENT: THE VISIT OF THE IAHRC HAS REOPENED OLD WOUNDS AND THERE ARE MANY IN THE MILITARY WHO HARBOR A DESIRE FOR VENGEANCE. THERE ALSO APPEARS TO BE A PYSCHOLOGICAL CAMPAIGN BEING WAGED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO JUSTIFY A NEW WAVE OF ABDUCTIONS AND DISAPPEARANCES ON THE BASIS THAT MONTONEROS HAVE RETURNED TO ARGENTINA AND HAVE RENEWED THEIR TERRORIST ACTIVITIES. IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS SEVERAL MILITARY OFFICERS HAVE MENTIONED A RESURGENCE OF MONTONERO ACTIVITIES BUT HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO PROVIDE SPECIFIC DETAILS SUCH AS THE NUMBER OF MONTONEROS WHO HAVE RETURNED AND WHEN THE TERRORIST ACTIONS TOOK PLACE.) ([redacted] COMMENT: [redacted] 3.3(b)(1) 3.3(b)(1)

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4. [redacted] 3.3(b)(1)

ALLEGED RETURN OF 30 MONTONERO ACTIVISTS TO ARGENTINA. [redacted] 3.3(b)(1)

[redacted] 3.3(b)(1)

[redacted] IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT [redacted] BOTH 3.3(b)(1)

REPORTS WERE EXAGGERATING THE EXTENT OF CURRENT TERRORIST ACTIVITY AND/OR THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS ENGAGING IN A DISINFORMATION CAMPAIGN TO JUSTIFY THE CONTINUATION OF HARSH SECURITY PRACTICES.)

[redacted] 3.3(b)(1)

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